

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 03721 031437Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ACDA-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 OIC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /095 W
-----007904 031756Z /53

R 031335Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4862
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USUN
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION GENEVA
USDEL MBFR VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 3721

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM MNUC UNGA PL
SUBJ: SPECIAL UNGA SESSION ON DISARMAMENT (SSOD) AND NEUTRON
"BOMB" ISSUE

REF: STATE 110723

1. DURING A CALL MAY 2 ON VICE FOREIGN MINISTER KULAGA, IN WHICH WE REVIEWED A NUMBER OF UN-RELATED ISSUES, OUR CONVERSATION FOCUSED ON THE SSOD. IN ANSWER TO MY QUESTION, KULAGA SAID THE GOP HOPED THE SESSION WOULD HAVE A CONSTRUCTIVE OUTCOME, AND THAT AFTER THE INEVITABLE PROTRACTED SPEECHMAKING IT WOULD TAKE A SENSIBLE APPROACH TO A DISARMAMENT PROGRAM. HE FORESAW PROBLEMS WITH ACTIVIST NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN THIS REGARD, BUT WAS HOPE-
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FUL IN PARTICULAR THAT UNREALISTIC TIMETABLES FOR ELIMINATION OF VARIOUS WEAPONS AND WEAPONS TYPES COULD BE AVOIDED.

2. KULAGA THEN ASKED ME ABOUT US VIEWS ON THE SSOD. I SAID WE, TOO, HOPED FOR A USEFUL RESULT. WE THOUGHT THE SSOD SHOULD TAKE UP CONVENTIONAL ARMS LIMITATIONS, WHICH REPRESENTED A PROBLEM OF WORLDWIDE DIMENSIONS, ALTHOUGH WE WERE AWARE THAT MANY COUNTRIES

WOULD WANT TO CONCENTRATE ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS ISSUES. IN THE
LATTER

ONNECTION WE WOULD STRESS THE NEED FOR CONTINUED AND
ENERGETIC EFFORTS AGAINST NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROLIFERATION.

3. I THEN TOLD KULAGA THAT WE HOPED THE SSOD WOULD NOT BECOME A
FORUM FOR PROPAGANDA ON THE NEUTRON WEAPON QUESTION, AND THUS
IMPEDE CONSIDERATION OF OTHER ISSUES WHERE WE THOUGHT PROGRESS
COULD AND SHOULD BE MADE. DRAWING ON THE REFTEL, I EMPHASIZED
THAT THE US DECISION TO DEFER PRODUCTION OF THE ER/RB WEAPON
MEANT THAT THE QUESTION OF ITS DEPLOYMENT HAD NOT EVEN BEEN
REACHED. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE USSR HAD ALREADY DEPLOYED, AND
TARGETTED AGAINST WESTERN EUROPE, THE SS-20, WHICH WOULD
HAVE FAR MORE DEVASTATING EFFECTS, AND POSED A MUCH GREATER
THREAT TO THE CIVILIAN POPULACE, THAN THE TACTICAL ER/RB
WEAPON WHICH WAS CONCEIVED OF AS A DEFENSE AGAINST THE NUMERI-
CALLY SUPERIOR WARSAW PACT TANK FORCES.

4. WE CONSIDERED, THEREFORE, THAT THE BURDEN TO SHOW RESTRAINT
IN WEAPONS BUILDUPS RESTED ON THE SOVIETS. IN ANY EVENT, WE
THOUGHT AN EXTENSION OF THE SOVIET/EE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE NEUTRON
WEAPON INTO THE SSOD WOULD BE CERTAIN TO HAVE DAMAGING EFFECTS
ON THE WORK OF THE SESSION. WE HOPED, THEREFORE, THAT SUCH A
MOVE WOULD NOT TAKE PLACE.

5. KULAGA REPLIED IN A LOW KEY MANNER THAT HE WOULD TAKE NOTE
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OF THE POINTS I HAD MADE. HE WAS SURE, NEVERTHELESS, THAT THE
NEUTRON "BOMB" QUESTION WAS BOUND TO COME UP AT THE SSOD IN
VIEW OF THE HIGH IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO IT BY MANY COUNTRIES.
HE SAID HE ASSUMED THE PROPOSAL MOUNTED AT GENEVA BY THE
"SOCIALIST" CCD MEMBERS WOULD BE TABLED AGAIN IN NEW YORK.
SCHAUFEE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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